Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

How will it tell the difference? The only way I see that this is possible is to let the copies play on only the machine it was recorded on. What happens if the machine is replaced?

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Again, how will it know what is legitimate or not? Then what exactly does this "flag" do?

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

It had better not. That would spell lawsuits for the companies involved.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

It might change the direction, but that is not bad or good.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment? It's their idea. Let them pay for it. In theory, it should stop the loss of their money, which is just as good as income.